The Pittsburgh Commercial.

VOL. V. PITTSBURGH, FRIDAY MORNING, MARCH 27, 1868. NO. 167.

FIRST EDITION.

8 O'CLOCK, M.

HARRISBURG.

The Appropriation Bill in the Senate.

REVISING THE MILITIA LAW.

Provisions of the New Supplement.

Number and Pay of Legislative Officers.

Special Dispatch to Pittsburgh Press.

HARRISBURG, March 26, 1868.

SENATE.

The Senate was occupied all morning with the Appropriation bill, which is passing as it came from the Committee of the Whole.

APPROPRIATIONS.—The appropriation bill passed second reading finally near 2 as it came from the Committee of the Whole.

John Burns, of Gettysburg, gets two hundred dollars.

The Senate rescinded Senator Lowry's resolution of Friday, relative to the Philadelphia judges and the pardoning power.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. Linton, of Cambria, introduced a bill incorporating the Johnstown Farmers, Mechanics and Laborers Co-operative Association.

Bills Passed Finally.

Senate supplement relating to insurance companies which applies the supplement of April 27, 1868, to Life and Accident Insurance Companies.

House bill requiring the State Treasurer to refund one per cent. tax paid by banks under the act of February 25, 1866, declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court.

House supplement to militia law of 1864, relating the system, passed second reading. It provides, among other things, that persons may purchase exemption, except in case of invasion or insurrection, by the payment of an annual tax of one dollar to form county brigade funds, and members of military organizations are to be paid twelve dollars per year.

The bill fixing the number and pay of legislative officers passed second reading. The chief clerks are to receive $5,500; assistant clerks $4,000; transcribing clerks, $900; all other officers, except pages, $600. The passing and folding is to be contracted for. Adjourned till afternoon.

AFTERNOON SESSION.—The following bills were Passed Finally:

Senate bill extending Mechanics lien law in improvements of machinery, tanks and fixtures of oil refineries. Amended by leaving it optional with stockholders of companies to adopt the law.

House joint resolution appropriating $2,000 to repairs of the Penn Treaty Monument, Philadelphia.

Repealing that provision in the act of March 27th, 1865, relating to proceedings in partition, which requires moneys arising from sales, to be paid into court.

Enabling insurance companies to transact business in other States.

Supplement to the 19th section of the act of April 29th, 1868, relating to opening of private underground roads to mines and other places, extending the same to opening of air courses to coal mines.

The bill requiring courts to forfeit licenses of persons convicted of wilfully selling liquor to minors and known intemperate persons and on Sunday, was discussed for two hours and passed first reading.

Adjourned till evening.

EVENING SESSION.—The special order for the evening was Senate bill defining the liabilities of railroad companies, which passed second reading. It was amended by increasing the liability for personal injury to three thousand dollars, and allowing parties insured by railroad companies to apply for damages under the second section.

Second Reading of Appropriation Bill in Senate—Attempt to Strike out Appropriation for Military History of Pennsylvania—Speech of Mr. Buckalew—Amendment His Reason for Preventing a History Being Written—Yeas on his Amendment—Salary of Supreme Judges, &c.

Special Dispatch to Pittsburgh Commercial.

HARRISBURG, Pa., March 26, 1868.

The Senate resumed the consideration of the General Appropriation Bill in Committee of the Whole during the session yesterday. It came up this morning on second reading. There was very little discussion elicited, and very few alterations made in the first nine sections. But when the tenth was reached, which appropriates money to the Adjutant General's office, and makes that office the disbursing office for the Historical department, there arose an animated and protracted debate. Mr. Scarlight, (Dem.) from Fayette, moved to strike out the following:

"To the Adjutant General of the State of Pennsylvania, for the completion of the military history of Pennsylvania, now in course of preparation, and for the publication of the same, including the expenses of the office, and for the purchase of such books as may be necessary, ten thousand dollars."

The amendment was not only voted for by the advocates of the liberal appropriation, but Messrs. Buckalew, Wallace and Scarlight. The former, Mr. Buckalew, began by saying that other other gentlemanly instances would attempt the amendment simply because the appropriation was large. But stating most distinctly that he had been opposed to the history being written, and would vote for striking out this appropriation were it not for the fact that some five or six thousand dollars had been already spent upon it and therefore they thought probably it was best to finish it for cheaper sake.

The work was commenced by the venerable Lowry, of Erie, Brown, of Lawrence, and Fisher, of Lancaster. Landon, of Bradford, took a strange position. He is usually sound on everything relating to the soldiers, but to-day he seemed to think the whole history being paid for by the State would not be a valuable work—that it was useless to write a history that would secure notice. He forgot that this is only intended to be interesting to the soldiers and their descendants of those who laid down their lives for their country—to those who are yet spared and who "acted well their parts" in the great war for national life—to those who shed their blood in some after us, and whose hearts will swell up with just pride when they can point out on the page of their county's history the names of their ancestors as being a part of the grand army of the Union that saved their country from destruction. Mr. Landon forgot that this history does not pretend to be a true sequel that it is not intended to present any future historian from elaborating and amplifying incidents and facts that can only be hinted at in this work. The appropriation was made, but coupled with a condition that the work shall be completed during the year.

The senate worked all day and did not get over one half the bill. It is a matter of astonishment how Senators will higgle about a few hundred dollars, and then gulp down ten thousand at one swallow, and never give a squeak. The salary of the Judges of the Supreme Bench was raised from *five thousand five hundred dollars* to *seven thousand five hundred dollars* each. This may be right, if our Supreme Judges are regarded to make money. I had a notion that those who sought a position on our Supreme Bench were those who had earned what they deemed a competence by hard and successful work at the Bar, and who did not look to the bench from active life altogether, but preferred to secure an honorable position in which there would not be the usual drudgery associated with a heavy practice. There is no reason why the salary of a Judge upon the Supreme bench is not as great by one-half as that of the president judges of our Courts of Common Pleas, &c., and yet they only are allowed by the present bill four thousand dollars. I cannot see how it comes to put an increased amount of brains into a man to allow him to sit upon the Supreme bench, than to allow him to sit upon the Court of Common Pleas. Are not the Supreme Judges were taken from the bench of some judicial district in the State, and how that simple transfer came to put increased legal ability into their heads I cannot see. The Senate should remember that the salary of these judges two thousand dollars each, and only raised the salary of the president judges of the several Courts of Common Pleas five hundred dollars.

JUDGES.

THE FREE RAILROAD LAW.

The following reasons were filed with the clerk of the House when the vote on the Free Railroad Conference Committee report was taken:

We voted for the report of the committee for the reason—1. It has been clearly established by the Senate refusing to concur in the amendments proposed by the House, that this is the best compromise we can make with the Senate; and 2. Believing the bill as reported to be better than no bill at all, we could not vote against it. It is one step in advance of former legislation; and as all concede we can go no better, we vote "aye."

(Signed,)

E. W. DAVIS,
THOS. NEWHAM.

XLth CONGRESS.

By Western Associated Press.

WASHINGTON, March 26, 1868.

SENATE.

The CHAIR submitted a protest from the Legislature of Kentucky against the wrong done the State in excluding its Representative from the House, and referring it to the Judiciary Committee.

Also, a memorial from the Constitutional Convention of South Carolina, praying the removal of political disabilities from several persons named. Referred.

Mr. CHANDLER reported favorably from the Committee on Commerce a bill to prevent and punish the destruction of vessels for the purpose of fraud. Referred to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. SHERMAN reported favorably from the Committee on Finance a bill to refund certain duties paid under protest.

Mr. TRUMBULL introduced a bill in relation to qualifications of jurors, which provides that no person shall be held to serve as a juror upon any grand jury or as a juror on trials for capital offenses, against the United States by reason of having formed or expressed an opinion upon the matter or matters to be tried by such grand jury for investigation, or upon the guilt or innocence of the person accused, if such opinion be founded on public rumor or report only. Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. SUMNER, at 12:15 p. m., moved to proceed to the consideration of the bill to restore to the Senate its executive functions.

Mr. HOWARD called up the bill to relieve the disabilities of Hon. Reverdy Johnson.

Mr. SUMNER said the proceeding was on two grounds—disturbing the public peace, inciting insurrection, libelling the General of the army, and obstructing the reconstruction acts.

Mr. STEWART asked why, if the Supreme Court had jurisdiction over reconstruction, and power to declare the war had ceased, it had not exercised it? The Court could be construed to make military decisions of them. The corner it could be repealed the better.

Mr. JOHNSON argued that the Constitution provided that habeas corpus should not be suspended in time of peace. The Supreme Court had decided in the Milligan case that military courts could not try a conspirator when peace prevailed in the United States.

Mr. TRUMBULL believed the law of 1867 was passed chiefly for the protection of colored citizens in the South from oppression.

Mr. JOHNSON replied that it was comprehensive in its character, and covered all such cases. He entertained no doubt that in the opinion of the Supreme Court the act of 1867 before them came within the scope of the act of 1863, confirmed in the ability of the Chief Justice, who he thought had made that point clear. He regretted the passage of the bill without sufficient knowledge on the part of the Senators that its provisions and the decisions of the Supreme Court would limit the jurisdiction of laws, by its terms upon the Supreme Court, and to limit the exercise of its functions. If Congress could withdraw unconstitutionally from the Supreme Court the jurisdiction of the right from citizens, according to act of 1863. These cases were brought in accord with the decision of the Supreme Court of the 19th, providing a judicial system. Could Senators reconcile the deprivation of the right of appeal with the principles of laws and justice?

Here the internal tax bill came from the House, and on motion of Mr. SHERMAN the Senate nonconcurred in the House amendments, and ordered a Committee of Conference.

Mr. HENDRICKS resigned, and retired the Mr. Conkling case, which had been brought directly within the law of 1867. If he (Hendricks) had occasion to go South, and expressed himself in hostility to the policy of Congress, would the Senate be justified in arresting by the military authorities, and appealed to the Supreme Court, say he should be sent back to his disgrace? Why was it they were not willing that the Supreme Court should pass upon their legislation? More than half the people of the United States had expressed their opinion against the constitutionality of the reconstruction acts. They had established a system of despotism in the South more odious than that of Bayonet. Where the Constitution and laws conferred the right of trial by jury, and made a law providing for trial by military tribunal, was it not of necessity a case for the Supreme Court to decide which was the law? He (Hendricks) had to strike down the Judiciary, as the Executive had been stricken down during the last year. Do that, and all the power of the country was in the hands of the Department at Washington unless it be the Legislature. One Department should be a check upon another within the sphere of the Constitution.

Mr. STEWART said it appeared the rights of men were very much involved in this bill, though appeal to the Supreme Court had been dispensed with for three-quarters of a century until last year. Persons being convicted and suffered fatal confinement of the military authorities, was arrested, tried and allowed to go on bail, and he certainly was in favor of relieving under very great difficulties. He (Stewart) had in that view made reference to the Supreme Court being overburdened with business. It was much beyond the ability or power of the ablest individual therefore they were not afraid of the Supreme Court. The presumption was, the Supreme Court will not be controlled by the decisions of the last Congress.

Mr. HOWARD asked what the charge against Mr. Ashley had been.

Mr. JOHNSON said the proceeding was on four grounds—disturbing the public peace, inciting insurrection, libelling the General of the army, and obstructing the reconstruction acts.

Mr. STEWART asked why, if the Supreme Court had jurisdiction over reconstruction, and power to declare the war had ceased, it had not exercised it? The Court could be construed to make military decisions of them. The corner it could be repealed the better.

Mr. JOHNSON argued

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The Daily Commercial

FRIDAY, MARCH 27, 1868.

The COMMERCIAL is the largest daily paper in the State, and gives daily one-fourth more reading than any other paper in Pittsburgh. It is the only Pittsburgh paper that uses the telegraph liberally, gives full market reports, and all the news of the day.

As proof of the estimate placed on the market reports of the COMMERCIAL, we will state that they are regularly copied by the New York Economist, Shipping List, Iron Age, and other papers of the character in that and other cities, and that leading English commercial papers and circulars regularly reprint them with credit. There is within five hundred miles, hardly an Iron Factory, Oil Refinery, or leading manufactory of any kind that is not a subscriber to the COMMERCIAL, principally because its reports are the only full and reliable given of the Pittsburgh markets.

WHEN the COMMERCIAL fell on its wise editorial head, and declared, in 1860 and 1864, that Lincoln was a respectable man, and entitled to another term, it "little joker" sort of management in politics was pretty severely rebuked by the people.—Pittsburgh Gazette.

What the *Gazette* denounces in 1868 it applauded in 1860. Therefore, it is probable that our neighbor is fully able to answer his own question. We have observed that the "little joker" sort of management in politics" usually becomes perplexing when those who chiefly practice it lose.

We suggest that, in regard to the bill in the House of Representatives, at Harrisburg, repealing the act whereby the city of Pittsburgh and certain outlying townships have been consolidated, the Legislature cannot probably do a better thing than let the question alone. The new solution has not yet been tested, but a few months having elapsed since it was entered into. The agitation of the question of repeal has turned many—hundreds we might say—who were at first well not to favor the bill, against it. Repeal would be a step backward, in contravention of the spirit of progress and the laws which ever control large and growing communities, and in opposition to sound policy. Consolidation under the law which it is proposed to repeal, it is true has been only partial, but it has been a step in the right direction. Instead of undoing what has been done, the work of consolidating in legal form what is actually Pittsburgh should be carried forward to completion. We are persuaded that the Legislature understands this, and that it will be more willing to pass a comprehensive consolidation than repeal the existing one and take the step backward which is favored by no considerable body of our people.

CHURCH RATES.

The cable told us yesterday that the House of Commons, on the night of the 20th inst., passed a bill abolishing church rates. Some readers may not be aware that church rates have nothing to do with tithes, and that their abolition involves no serious embarrassment to the church by law established. The object of church rates is simply to maintain the church edifice in a state of repair, whereas the object of tithes is to maintain the person or rector of the parish in garments, food, drink, *carriage* and all the other essentials of comfortable living. Rates for repairs are taxes imposed upon the parishioners by themselves assembled by their representatives in vestry. For many years, as all know, very lively controversies have flourished in nearly all the Parishes of England as to the legal right of collecting these rates, the the conditions of their imposition, and so forth. It would be easy to quote—in fact we find it rather difficult at this moment to abstain from unburdening our memory of—several verses from rather noted British poets, to illustrate the feeling with which these petty taxes have long been regarded by non members of the establishment. We spare our readers, however. As long ago as 1842 old Dr. Lyndhurst decided that a minority of a parish vestry possess no legal authority to levy a church rate. The case was brought before him from a place in Essex, of which the name is Braintree, and ever since the Braintree case, as it is called, has been frequently in the months of Dissenters all over the Island. Innumerable pamphlets have been written, innumerable speeches made, and the *Nonconformist* newspaper, throughout nearly its whole career, has kept up an almost continuous fire of logic, satire and invective against the odious Rates. About 1856 they were abolished by an act of the House of Commons, which was thrown out by the Lords, and the same thing has happened more than once since that time. It is now quite likely that the act of the current month reported by the cable will be confirmed by the Lords and by the Queen; and that in the future, Church Rates will be paid only by those who use the house, which they are invited to repair.

A PARALLEL.

Some newspaper writer has noticed a parallel or a resemblance between Mr. Johnson and Charles I, of England. To which of the two the apology is due, or making such a comparison, we shall not undertake to decide. But a much more striking parallel to our misjudging and self-willed President is published in the history of a later English king—the famous and infamous James II. On his accession to his brother's throne, a grand project of reconstruction took possession of his mind. He entered upon and prosecuted it with a consciousness of power and an obstinacy of will that spurned cautionary counsels. "My policy"—a phrase familiar to our ears—would have been precisely the expression to signify the estimate he had of the grandeur of the work and of the glory—to be exclusively his own—of his scheme for effecting it.

No sooner had James got hold of the power of government, than he understood the great work of reconstructing the Roman Catholic religion; that is, of restoring it to political ascendency in England, and of bringing revolted England into allegiance to the Pope. His patronage was administered with direct reference to this design. Officers were removed and appointed, counsellors were rejected and chosen, measures were refused or approved with exclusive reference to "my policy." James had, in the outset of his reign, a Parliament greatly inclined by their party predilections to support his authority. But he soon fell out with it, and for the rest of his miserable administration his great aim and effort were devoted to the purpose of getting one that would be obsequious to his wishes. He was of that peculiar disposition that opposition only seemed to inflame him with a more determined and stubborn resolution to have his own way. Our President, though of a like disposition, was less fortunate in the Legislature which he had on its accession and as unfortunate in his endeavors to get one subservient to his will. The people, in both cases, saw it was proper and best to curb individual power when it betrayed a purpose to play selfish pranks, irrespective of their will and interests.

The troubles and perplexities of both these rulers were occasioned by similar causes. Each found his operations embarrassed by a *Test* Act, required by law to be administered to questionable characters; both were encumbered by the chairmanship of a party that had made itself odious by its wickedness, and most of all, both encountered the intelligent and stern opposition of a people jealous of their rights and therefore a persistent course of conduct aside from the laws offensive to the people, left each of these rulers with only a small and unscrupulous minority around him, while the great body of both nations denied a change of rulers, and thereby a return of order, freedom and prosperity. Tired of the schemes of ambition and of the discords and consolidations generated or aggravated by them, the people of both countries declared and sought relief in a constitutional way. In England the bigoted and obstinate King sacrificed the respect of the great mass of his subjects. So badly cared for him, except a few official parasites, and the few of the people who favored his reconstruction and his policy. Parties united with Whigs in their indifference and opposition. His hopes of the support of the army were sadly disappointed, and he was obliged, with the ignominy of his deeds, and the disappointment of his treacherous schemes weighing heavily on him, to abandon a post of power, of which he was totally unworthy.

Mr. Johnson, on his coming to the Presidency by the lamentable death of his predecessor, had a fair chance for one of the most important, successful and popular of all our Presidential administrations. He was the representative of a strong party, which was disposed to give him, in the execution of the laws, their cordial support, and also to look with leniency on his admitted delinquencies, both personal and official. In his constitutional sphere, he might with confidence have relied on the support and co-operation of Congress, in the work of reconstructing the Union. But the very chances of such glory seem to have dazzled him to blindness, and in the bewilderment of the lofty position to which he was so unexpectedly promoted, a latent ambition was developed, which was revived and fostered by the factories of an adverse party, and made the occasion of hindering instead of helping the work of reconstruction. Egotism and individuality undertook the work, obliging Congress, as the faithful representative of the people, to interpose the authority of law as a barrier to unlawful power. This only fretted an obstinate disposition, and enlisted for its encouragement the calculations of an adverse party furnishing for political ascendency, and the applauses of a section in which the flames of rebellion had but lately been extinguished by the blood of three hundred thousand loyal men. The conflict is still going on. The parties at issue are essentially but two—the President on the one side and the people on the other, as it was in England, between the King and his subjects. Justice and right, we hope, will mark the procedure and the decision. Human nature is uniform. History repeats itself.

The Republicans at Reading.

In no other quarter of this State is there a more patriotic and gallant body of men than constitute the Republican party of Berks county—a county so given over to the Democracy that it is difficult if not almost disheartening to contend with any hope of success. But the Berks Republicans are a dauntless party, and every year succeed in reducing the heavy odds against them. They are often defeated, but never disarmed. They had a mass meeting in Reading on Tuesday evening, which was largely attended, and the proceedings enthusiastic. Hon. Low. Bartholomew was the orator of the evening, and was complimented by a vote of thanks for his able and patriotic address. Among the resolutions adopted were the following:

Resolved, That we urge upon the friends of the Republican party throughout the State the necessity of a thorough organization, and the importance of securing the election of delegates to the Constitutional Convention who will represent the principles of the party in all its purity, and who will not be controlled by the corrupt influences which have been brought to bear upon the people of this State by the Democratic party, and which have resulted in the present corrupt condition of affairs.

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The City Councils.

The Councils held a special meeting yesterday afternoon, and some of the measures adopted are of great importance. The ordinance providing for the issue of bonds to the amount of $250,000, of the Water Loan authorized by act of Assembly, was finally passed. These bonds will be issued under the direction of the Finance Committee, and the proceeds will chiefly be applied to the extension of water facilities in the districts recently consolidated. An ordinance was also adopted for the widening of the sidewalks on Fifth street, between Market and Smithfield streets, by taking two feet from the carway, on each side of the street, and adding the same to the footwalks. The crowded condition of this thoroughfare, at all hours of the day and evening, renders an enlargement of the sidewalks extremely desirable, and the property holders are said to be almost unanimously in favor of the improvement. Smith thus has its own way in both the Nicholson pavement, and the present is a most favorable opportunity to make the change. The transfer of $9,000 from the contingent fund to the new appropriation for surveys, is also an important measure, especially to the new districts. We invite, on behalf of our city readers, a careful perusal of the proceedings of our municipal legislators.

The Political Canvass.

Now that the time for holding the County Convention has been fixed, politicians are beginning to canvass quite actively, and candidates are announcing themselves through the public prints. In another column will be found the announcement of Gen. S. Negley and Thomas Stewart, Esq., as candidates for Congress in the 22d District; Gen. A. L. Pearson and Wm. C. Moreland, Esq., for District Attorney, and J. B. Flack, Esq., for Assistant District Attorney. The campaign may be said to have scarcely opened, although candidates have not been idle among their friends for months past, and the time intervening between now and the holding of the Convention will be a busy one.

Mr. Farrow, the Sylvanus Cobb of the *Atlantic*, who has been engaged to furnish the *Atlantic Monthly* with all stories each month, has had his salary increased by fifty dollars per month. He now receives, says the New York *Herald*, two hundred dollars an article. He has written two articles on "Our Roman Catholic Brethren," one of which appears in the April number of the *Atlantic*. He spent nearly three months in writing these articles, commencing on the 9th of December, and finishing them on the 1st of March. He is said to be one of the hardest literary workers of the day. He now employs an amanuensis.

It is asserted that shortly succeeding the humiliating exhibition of himself by Andrew Johnson on the day of Mr. Lincoln's second inauguration, a caucus of Republican Senators was held, when the impeachment of Vice President Johnson was proposed. It is said, furthermore, that Senators Fessenden, Anthony and Sherman advocated the impeachment of Andrew Johnson, Vice President of the United States, for misdemeanor in office, and that the proposition was defeated after a strong speech of considerable length by Mr. Wade.

By a recent decision of the United States Supreme Court, deposits made in savings banks may be lawfully subjected to local taxation, even when those deposits have been invested and are held in the form of Government securities. Heretofore it has been supposed that the bank might deduct the amount of such security from its other assets, and only pay taxes on the remainder, but this position having been contested in Connecticut, a case was made and carried to the Supreme Court, with the result above stated.

The Washington correspondent of the Boston *Post* avers that "Seward's conduct is at the bottom of this unfortunate misunderstanding between Judge Black and the President. The correspondence may soon be published, and it will show that Seward's determination to protect, as Judge Black says, his thieving friends, necessitates the withdrawal of the latter from any participation in the President's defense."

The following shows the relative totals of the foreign commerce at all the ports of the United States at three distinct periods, before and since the war:

Year.	Its Amount in Exports.	Its Amount in Imports.
1860	$400,436,462	$353,616,067
1865	192,317,197	248,120,406
1867	297,211,477	357,746,558

Chicago is modest, and always has been. To prove the fact we quote the following from the *Times* of that city: "Chicago does not go to the world. The world comes to Chicago. Every town, everywhere, wishes a railroad to Chicago."

The election in Wisconsin for two Supreme Court Judges takes place on the 7th of April. Although the State has a decided Republican majority usually, the Democrats are making great efforts to succeed this time. They have the help of some disaffection among the people, growing out of the farm mortgage question.

Give Fortune a Chance.

Now when the application of steam and electricity has brought the ends of the earth together, no portion of the earth is wholly uninteresting to us. Not only so, but every item of geographical knowledge may prove directly and practically useful. Who supposed a short time ago that any knowledge he might happen to possess concerning Alaska, was of any use? The East has always been interesting to cultivated minds, and information about it has also been useful as an aid to the comprehension of the Book upon which our civilization, as well as our religion is founded. And now, the close connection into which we have been brought with some of the Asiatic nations, imparts a certain interest to whatever we can learn about any of them. After no long time it may become almost as common for the young American to seek his fortune in the East as it is now to do so in the West. This expression reminds us that a few days ago, in a newspaper extract from a lately published book of travels in Asia, we saw the statement of a Hindoo complaint regarding British domination in India, which must have struck some readers as very strange and perhaps unintelligible. The complaint was that under English rule "fortune has no chance." To those who know tolerably well the character of the orientals and the state of society among them, the subject presents no obscurity. The idea perhaps exhibits one form of the popular notions of fatalism so widely prevalent in that portion of the world—that is fatalism modified by common sense and common experience. But the complaint means that under the foreign rule established in India, all things susceptible of such control, are regulated by general rules. Under the native princes individual fancy and caprice pull down the mighty and lift up the feeble. Long and faithful service affords no guarantee of continued prosperity, and the entire absence of both service and merit, is no barrier to the most exalted state and the most coveted dignities. In other words, the fictions of the Arabian Nights are oriental facts, and portray a condition of things which may still be seen in all those countries of Asia wherein ancient oriental ideas are permitted to become realities. Thirty years ago an American adventurer from Philadelphia was powerful in the dominions of Ranjeet Singh, the ruler of the Sikhs. Thirteen years ago an American French barber, who called himself General Dragoni, was almost absolute ruler of Burmah, as the favorite of the King. Even Egypt, whose rulers are commonly believed to be very much Europeanized in their ideas, still allows fortune to have a chance. The Court banker and head of one of the first mercantile houses in Alexandria, entered Egypt as a poverty-stricken dancing-master in the time of the late viceroy Said Pacha. Through the influence of some countrymen in Egypt the dancing master obtained an audience of the Pacha. His Highness was known to be rather deficient in the qualities which make the warrior. The Frenchman on being introduced, assuming a theatrical attitude, addressed him as "a most mighty hero whose fame and fortune in war threatened to eclipse the fame and fortune of the great Napoleon." The Pacha was delighted—his weak points had been hit and he at once began to reward his counselor for their discovery in exercise in him the qualities which foreigners believe him to possess. The Frenchman's fortune was made: he received a lucrative appointment as dancing master to the haram, and became the daily companion of the Viceroy, while his wife became the intimate associate of the royal ladies. The Frenchman became very rich and is now, as stated above, the leading banker in Alexandria. And yet Said Pacha was not a fool about ordinary matters—and even in this affair of the dancing master, he was, no doubt, applauded by all true, uncorrupted Orientals at exemplifying the chances of fortune.

This may seem to some a very trifling subject to write about. The justification is that multitudes think about and act upon the impressions in regard to the East which we have conveyed in illustrate. Perhaps hitherto not many Americans, but great numbers of English, French, Italians and even Germans, mostly uneducated men of ill regulated imaginations and ambitious temper go to Egypt and Asia in the hope of verifying the dreams of wealth and power suggested by some knowledge of the East. Most of them are disappointed. Even the East has changed, is changing—and probably in a few years more, its accessible regions will be so completely changed by intimate association with the West—that fortune will have little or no chance to any of them.

"A Big Thing."

The Philadelphia *Ledger* unearths "a big thing," which has been run through the Legislature at Harrisburg, as follows:

"Saturday's report of the Legislative proceedings in the House of Representatives at Harrisburg on the day before completed the following brief paragraph: "An act incorporating the Domestic Resource Company passed finally." This is so modest and innocent a little sentence that very few people would be likely to pay attention to it, yet the bill referred to is what Harrisburg operators would call a "big thing." It will have a heavy effect if it before us. It proposes a company of the most extraordinary character, with power to issue $10,000,000 of stock, and to borrow money without limit, and almost without liability. This company, among other wide-sweeping powers and privileges, is authorized to purchase and hold real estate without restriction, which may be even in the cities and counties and conveniences. Such an unbridled grant to a corporation to hold real estate, we feel safe in saying, has never been heard of except in the State of Pennsylvania, since the statutes of mortmain. It is further empowered to purchase and sell bonds and securities, to make contracts of insurance, to issue certificates of deposit and *hold on deposit* personal estate, including notes, bonds, obligations and accounts of individuals, banks, bodies corporate and States; to receive and hold real estate as well as personal estate, in trust, and to sell or dispose of it in the United States *and elsewhere, without proceeding in law or in equity*, on such terms as the company chooses; to deal in exchange, foreign and domestic; to endorse and guarantee the securities of others; to open branches and agencies *anywhere* in the United States, *Europe or elsewhere*."

This beats anything, says the *Ledger*, yet attempted in the Pennsylvania Legislature since the old days of "big gulling," under the United States Bank: and we lay the foregoing dissection of the new "monster" before the public, that they may take a thorough look at it; and we trust it may also meet the prompt inspection of the Senate, the Attorney-General and the Governor.

[The above has been in type for some days, but press of other matter has prevented its appearance until now. Since the original article was written, the House of Representatives have promptly remembered their action and defeated the bill by a vote of eighty to two.]

In regard to the operation of the Bankrupt Law in the South, the returns indicate that bankrupts in that section have not availed themselves of the provisions of the law to any great extent. One of the objects for which the law was passed, as has been generally supposed, was to relieve debtors in the South, and that a large number have not taken advantage of it is perhaps due to the disordered condition of the country. On the first of January one hundred and twenty-four petitions had been brought in North Carolina; about the middle of that month thirty-one in Delaware and nine in Florida; and still later in the month forty-three in the District of Columbia. At the beginning of February there had been brought in Virginia but sixty-six, in Alabama up to the middle of December, only three hundred, and in Arkansas not far from the same number.

The date for which Mr. Train is now an inmate of Dublin Jail grew out of his railway projects awhile ago. He admits there was such a claim against him, but avers that he sent the money to pay it through the Bank of England long ago, and that if it is not paid it is the Bank's fault. He declares it to be his purpose not to do anything to release himself, and that they may keep him as long as it suits them. Other detainers have been sent from Liverpool and London. It is rumored that those who know of the circumstances under which he left London, some years ago, have only wondered that this catastrophe has not occurred before; but it is probable that the parties waited in the hope of his venturing into England. The night after the arrest, Train's name was mentioned in a farce at the Queen's Theater in Dublin—when there was "an outburst of hissing and other signs of popular contempt."

English Views of Fenimore Cooper's Opinions on American Democracy.—The *Pall Mall Gazette* says: "The introduction of first-class passenger saloons on American Railway (between New Haven and New York), will doubtless become general in the United States. The idea of equalizing equality in railway travelling is very pretty in the abstract, but it happens that an invidious distinction between classes is a necessary concomitant of civilization. The railway cars in America, under the present system, are noisy, dirty, and uncomfortable in every way; but the sleeping cars are admirably arranged, and might be imitated to advantage on some of the continental lines."

Suits for libel against editors are growing unpopular and unprofitable. Last week, for five fifty thousand dollars' worth of libel, Mrs. Dean Richmond got nothing out of the *Sun*; for fifty thousand dollars' worth he got Mr. Myers's two thousand dollars' worth; for nothing out of the Cincinnati *Commercial*; for Boston Parker's ten thousand dollars' worth he got nothing out of the *Nation*. It would be quite nothing out of the Nation. It would be quite nothing out of the Nation. It would seem from these precedents that persons holding valuable hits for libel should get them discounted before commencing suit.

PERSONAL.

—The Australian papers were not very favorably impressed with Prince Alfred at his recent visit to that Island. They say that "if it was intended by this visit to create among the colonists an ardent desire to have a Royal Court established in their midst, the choice of couriers was, to say the least of it, unfortunate. The central figure, however acceptable as a distinguished visitor, has certainly not impressed the people of Victoria with a belief in his capacity as a ruler, or his determination strictly to perform the thousand harassing duties appertaining to a high station. He has failed lamentably in the kingly virtue of punctuality, while of that indignity of demeanor which is said to befit the prince, we have had but few examples."

—The Hon. John Wentworth, of Chicago, on his return from one of his first sessions of Congress, it is said, invested his mileage money in land in that city. He has since sold portions of it for $400,000, and has $100,000 worth left.

—The projected visit of the Prince of Wales to Ireland, received the sanction of the Queen on the 9th inst., and the visit, which will last for at least a week, is to take place immediately after Easter. The object of the visit is that the Prince may be installed as a Knight of St. Patrick. The proceedings are to be on a scale of unexampled splendor. The Prince is to receive the ribbon vacant since the death of the Prince Consort.

—The *Tribune*'s correspondent says there is in Washington a lady aspirant for the honors of the English mission. Mrs. Frances Lord Bond is her name, and she has a long catalogue of supporters among the members of Congress, headed by no less a name than that of Benjamin Wade. She is now working assiduously for the rejection of General McClellan, and, should she succeed, she supposes that the President will appoint her, for the reason that she is the only person whom the Senate will confirm.

—A young lady from New York, Miss Cleveland, we presume a niece of Horace Greeley's, and a frequent contributor to Watson's *Art Journal*, has recently created quite a *furore* in musical circles in Europe. Being presented to Liszt, at Rome, by Charlotte Cushman, she played before the distinguished pianist, when he was so delighted with the performance, that, after the manner of the Italians, he embraced her in public, an unusual mark of recognition.

—Dr. Samuel L. Dana, one of the most noted American chemists, died at Lowell on Friday afternoon, in consequence of breaking his thigh by a fall on the ice seven weeks ago. He entered Harvard college at fourteen, and on graduating in 1812, entered the army as a lieutenant of artillery, and served in the war with Great Britain. He has been noted especially for his contributions to agricultural science.

—The New York *Mail* says: "About two weeks ago Dickens passed through Albany, and had the room of Lieut. Gov. Woodford, the latter being absent. This time, Woodford being there, Dolby wrote to the proprietor of Congress Hall to try and have Woodward vacate his room for Dickens. Gov. Woodford is a very pleasant gentleman, but from the way in which the request came to him could scarcely do that, and he didn't do it."

—Commenting upon a story that Edwin Booth got so excited in a combat scene, when in Chicago, as to wound his fellow actor, a contemporary says: "An old actor has noted three ways of getting terribly excited, and has given us the benefit of his experience. That man is a great one for these wildest flights of genius is no exclamation in kind at the time." We saw Booth horse-whip his fellow actors in "Taming the Shrew," says the Chicago *Times*, and we saw him fight, without any regard for feelings. We are quite sure, had we been the humblest of them, we would have tested his feelings by a similar process. We don't have to be a Booth a single while we would have made one for once. Some of them were wells for days after, in consequence of such brutal thoughtlessness or recklessness."

Commodore Vanderbilt, now in his seventy-sixth year, is one of the handsomest men in New York. He has also had as much success as most as fair as a woman. He dresses very neatly, always wears a white cravat, and a midnight cut coat, and would be taken by ninety-nine in a hundred for a preacher. Though regarded as a shrewd, very well skilled and unscrupulous, he never says very much, and never of always doing exactly what he agrees to do. Though having such vast interests in his hands, he is punctual to the minute, and has more leisure, by systematic and thorough, than his business habits, that he is always ready for a drive in the park by 2 o'clock in the afternoon. He keeps no horses himself, and takes delight in distancing everything on the road except Robert Bonner's nags, which he finds a match for his own. He spends nearly every week day evening at the theater, play or opera, or white, to which he is passionately devoted.

Railroads of the State.

We have received, from Auditor-General Hartranft, a copy of his annual railroad report, bearing date February 11, 1868. It is an interesting and valuable volume, as it gives the financial condition of the several steam and horse railways of the State at the close of the year, together with a report of their operations. The volume also contains a general map, showing the relative position of the various railroads and tributaries, the railroads, canals and navigable waters by which they are connected and forming their respective avenues to market; also the location of furnaces, rolling mills, blacksmiths and forges of Pennsylvania and adjoining States. The total number of roads reported is sixty-four. Some put down at eighty-three, of horse roads at twenty-three, and of canals at thirteen. Of the first, the Allegheny Valley, M'Cauley Mountain and Kiskiminetas, Saltsburg and Conemaugh Canal and railroad company, and of the second, the Hendersville, Mantua and Fairmount, and the Plymouth and Wilkesbarre, failed to make any report in accordance with the requirements of law.

The total capital stock of railroads authorized is $124,905,825; total subscribed, $115,090,947; total paid, $107,679,875; total funded debt, $125,174,023 94; total floating debt, $8,866,522 01; total cost of road and equipment, $200,338,516 20; total length of main line, in miles, 2,097½; total branch roads, 89; total length of sidings, 1,956; total number of passenger cars, 940; total number of baggage, mail and express cars, 498; number of freight cars or trucks, 17,304; number of coal cars, 6,000; number of horses owned, 3,855; number of locomotives, 1,205; number of bridges, 1,326; total value of real estate held by the companies, $5,864,249 28.

The number of through passengers during the year was 4,232,964; number of passengers of all kinds, 12,232,103; number of tons of freight, 24,000,507; gross tonnage for the year, 25,562,219.

The aggregate receipts of the roads for the year were $30,394,866 64, and the aggregate expenses $22,454,990 63.

During the year 835 persons were killed on the roads and 415 injured; 126 of the former, and 215 of the latter being employees.

From the tables of the report we glean the following: Total cost of road and equipment, $3,923,256 66; aggregate capital stock authorized, $10,360,200; stock subscribed, $8,-904,100; amount paid in, $8,904,100; total floating and funded debt, $1,975,305 39; real estate owned, $826,854 45; horses owned, 3,855; cars, 697; total expenses, $2,310,759 78; total receipts, $3,258,064 54. Twelve persons were killed and twenty injured during the year.

The tabulated results compiled from Canal companies are as follows: Authorized capital, $17,450; capital paid in, $6,000,135 76; total funded and floating debt, $25,912,584 59; total cost of canals and fixtures, $28,660,297 93; total value of real estate, $753,950; total expenses for the year, $1,601,856 32; total receipts, $3,227,930 31.

A considerable amount of Northern capital is going into the bonds of the Southern States, in the belief that they offer at the present prices a large margin for profit in the advance that will almost immediately follow reconstruction. In the integrity of those States to honestly pay interest on their bonds, those professing to be well informed express no doubt, and in North Carolina this view is strengthened in the fact that the new Constitution provides that the Legislature shall, by appropriate legislation, provide for the prompt and regular payment of the interest upon the public debt, commencing with coupon due January 1, 1869, and after the year 1875 it shall levy a special annual tax, which shall be set apart as a sinking fund, devoted to the payment of the principal. Until the bonds of the State shall be at par, the General Assembly shall have no power to contract any new debt. The other Southern States promise in their action similar integrity of purpose.

The following is appears in the Washington *Chronicle*, of Tuesday: "Will not somebody be so good as to give the country the names of those judges of the Supreme Court who were seen coming from the Presidential Mansion, by the back way, after 10 o'clock, on the night of the 5th inst., and who were met by a hack full of cars on the avenue, south of the Treasury building? Although it is said that these high functionaries were fully recognized, yet the public have not been favored with their information on the point that has yet been communicated."

"Every day," says the Chicago *Republican*, "brings fresh proof of the immense concourse from all parts of the country, the occasion of the gathering of the gathering of the National Republican Convention in May next will bring together. The Committee of arrangements are in receipt of frequent letters from delegations that intend to be present, and already accommodations are secured with leading hotels for a great number of visitors. Chicago will have the lash-string out in a style worthy of the city and the most popular place of national convocation in the United States."

The political campaign in Georgia promises to be an animated one. The Republicans have nominated Colonel Bullock, and the Conservatives Judge Reese. Judge Irwin likewise announces himself as an Independent Conservative candidate, in opposition to Judge Reese. The report that the latter has withdrawn from the canvass is not confirmed. Ex-Governor Brown is managing the State for Colonel Bullock. He, at the same time, takes up the arguments put forth by Mr. Hill, the champion of the Conservatives, and treats them in detail.

From a communication to Congress from the Treasury Department, it appears that there has been manufactured of fractional currency more than $83,000,000, involving the handling of 27,000,000 sheets and producing 444,000,000 of notes, without the loss to the Government of a single note of any denomination. The communication of General Spinner states substantially that there is no possibility of fraud in his office, "except through outright stealing."

CITY MATTERS.

Death of a Minister's Wife.—Mrs. Anna McGaw, wife of Rev. J. E. McGaw, late of this city, but now of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, died in that city on the 23d instant, in the fifty-fifth year of her age.

Connection.—In publishing the Common Pleas trial list yesterday, the Tradesmen's National Bank was given as defendant in a suit, instead of the Second National Bank of Allegheny. The Tradesmen's Bank is not a party to any suit that we are aware of.

Iron Fronts in St. Paul.—Capitalists in St. Paul, Minnesota, who are about erecting extensive buildings in that city, intend visiting this place for the purpose of ascertaining the cost of "iron fronts," which are now in such general use here and elsewhere. Those of our iron manufacturers engaged in that branch of business will doubtless be able to supply them at cheaper rates than can be had elsewhere.

East Birmingham Councils.—The new borough Council of East Birmingham met at their chambers in the Walton Engine House, on Monday evening, for the purpose of organizing. The Burgess elect, Geo. E. Slocum, presided. Standing committees were appointed for the ensuing year, and a Street Commissioner elected. The Commercial *Dispatch* (English,) *Freheits Freund* and *Volksblatt* (German) were elected the official papers of the borough for the ensuing year. The Council will meet again on Tuesday evening next, when they will fully organize and elect the remaining borough officers.

Birmingham Council.—The new Council of Birmingham met on Tuesday evening, there being present Burgess Salisbury and members Walker, McIlwaine, Ward, Rodman, Atterbury and Malone. The oath of office was administered by the Burgess to the new members, Messrs. Redman, Atterbury, McIlwaine and Ward. On motion, D. S. Salisbury was re-elected clerk of council by acclamation. Warrants were ordered to be drawn in favor of the members of the election board for one dollar each. The bond of Daniel Berg, tax collector, was given up, he having made a final settlement with the borough. Council adjourned to meet again this evening, for the election of borough officers.

Highway Robbery and Assault.—On Wednesday night, Mr. Wm. Wilson, an elderly man of about sixty years, employed as clerk in the machine and boiler making establishment of Messrs. Hartupee & Co., in the First ward, while walking down First street, was attacked near the corner of Redoubt alley, by three men, who knocked him down and robbed him of all his valuables, consisting of a silver watch and chain, twenty-five dollars in money and a check drawn by Hartupee & Co., for $100. Besides robbing him, the ruffians also brutally beat Mr. Wilson with a "blandyfilly" or some other blunt instrument, until he was also insensible. The front part of his skull was fractured and some severe cuts sustained. He was removed to the Keystone Hotel, where he is attended by Dr. King. His injuries are of a serious character, and it is highly doubtful if the assailants and robbers has been obtained, and the case is being worked up.

Federal Street and Pleasant Valley Passenger Railway.—A meeting of the stockholders of this Company was held at Gray's Hotel, Second ward, Allegheny, on Wednesday afternoon, W. S. Bissell, Esq., presiding. The act of corporation and the ordinance granting the right of way through Allegheny, were read, the acceptance of which was laid over under consideration. A report from the Board of Directors of temporary organization was received, showing the estimated cost of constructing and completing the road to be $34,586 75, with other interesting statistics, among which was a letter from Mr. Stevenson, of New York, giving an account of the management and profits of different roads throughout the country. On motion, the Board of Directors were granted privilege to elect their President and other officers of the road. The meeting adjourned to meet again at the same place this evening at 7½ o'clock, for the election of officers and permanent organization.

Selling Goods by Sample—More Arrests.

Two Eastern agents were before Alderman Humbert, of the First ward, yesterday, charged with selling goods by sample. The first information was made by officer Jerry Gumbert, of the Mayor's police, against Wm. Mahaam. Mahaam is acting as agent of the "New York Cloth Printing Co.," Messrs. Greenwall, Hillsberg & Co., and is charged with selling prints, ginghams, &c., by sample from a pocket card and other samples. He arrived here on Wednesday afternoon. The case was held for a hearing at two o'clock this afternoon.

The next case was that of J. Hall, who was arrested by officer John Irwin, of the Mayor's police. He is accused of selling shirts by sample. He claims to be a member of the firm of Hall, Wood & Co., but it is established he will be liable to only fifty dollars penalty for selling without a license. He arrived in the city on Wednesday, and applied for aid to the Associated Charities, Association to help him out of immediate difficulties. His case was also held for a hearing this afternoon.

Real Estate Sales.

The following deeds were filed of record before H. Snively, Esq., Recorder, March 25, 1868:

James McGuinness to Henry Hunsberger, Dec. 31, 1867, lot in Fifth ward, Allegheny, 25 feet front.

Same to Same to Keystone Institute, February 18, 1868, one hundred acres in North Fayette township.

John Meuser to Wm. M. Caney, January 18, 1868, lot in Pittsburgh, 20 feet on Penn street, with building, corner, one food and Penn street, with building, corner, one food and Hamilton alley, and building.

Daniel Hamilton and Robert Osborn, Daniel McPhail and George Dukes, March 3, 1868, lot in Allegheny City, fronting four the Monongahela river, and extending four hundred feet to the Ohio river, at the mouth of the said on the terms aforesaid, and that in default of the first payment of thirty days, the said lot at the option of the party of the first part (myself or Wm. Brackenridge) is to be resold and forfeited." And whereas, subsequently with my consent, said lease was duly assigned by said party of the first part to Wm. Brackenridge; and whereas the said party of the second part, after taking possession of said coal land, and making some improvements thereon, has since abandoned the said coal land and their coal works and refused to pay the rent and perform the stipulations of said lease in respect to the payment of rents, and whereas the said party of the second part is Allegheny county and their respective residences are unknown to the subscriber; I do hereby give public notice to them, said lessees and all others that I claim that said lease has become void, in pursuance of the above quoted condition of said coal lease, and in pursuance of non-fulfillment of the said terms of said lease, and I do hereby declare that I declare all rights of said lessees under said lease forfeited, and that I do hereby resume possession of said coal property, so leased as aforesaid, on the 6th day of April next, at which time satisfactory arrangements shall be entered into before the subscriber with the said lessees, Dalsburg, Hall & Johns, McCully; or those interested, with me, on failure of which I declare said lease void as to me and void, saving and reserving, however, any and all rights that I may have or may hereafter have against said lessees, or any of them, in law, equity or otherwise, in, and by said agreement or any other agreement of the said lessees." Dated this 6th day of March, 1868.

P. S. BRACKENRIDGE,
For myself and as Executor of the last will and testament of H. M. Brackenridge, deceased.

Nathan, Allegheny county, Pa., March 18, 1868.

GROVER & BAKER'S

Elastic Stitch and Lock Stitch

SEWING MACHINES,

With the Latest Improvements,

At the new and Elegant Salesrooms of the Company,

51 FIFTH STREET.

Also, Needles, Attachments, Machine Silks and Cottons, Linen Thread, Machine Oil, &c., &c.

The citizens of Pittsburgh and vicinity are respectfully invited to call. Appointments for ladies solicited. Circulars and Samples by mail on application. Correspondence be addressed to

GROVER & BAKER S. M. CO.,
51 FIFTH ST., Pittsburgh.

TO THE TEACHERS AND FRIENDS OF EDUCATION IN ALLEGHENY COUNTY—The undersigned would respectfully announce that in accordance with requirements of the Common School Law, an Institute will be held in the HALL OF THE FOURTH WARD PUBLIC SCHOOL, Pittsburgh, Pa., beginning on MONDAY, March 30th, at 10 o'clock A. M., and ending FRIDAY, April 3d, 1868.

The law permits Directors to grant Teachers the time to attend the Institute and count it the same as so much time spent in teaching; and so far as I have had an opportunity to present this matter to Directors, they have not only expressed a willingness to do so, but are anxious their teachers should attend. All teachers act wisely, they will not fail to attend this meeting.

A. T. DOUTHETT,
THYS County Superintendent.

DRY LUMBER.

15-INCH SHINGLES,

Shaved and Sawed—extra quality.

DRY FLOORING BOARDS,

And all kinds of LUMBER, at
C. C. BOYLE & CO.'S
Yard, above Suspension Bridge, Allegheny city.
TF

WM. HOLMES. JAMES IRWIN.

JAMES IRWIN & CO.,

MANUFACTURERS OF

OIL OF VITRIOL AND AQUA AMMONIA.

Office, No. 15 MARKET STREET,
Pittsburgh, Pa.

GERMAN SOAP.

25 boxes Procter & Gamble's Mottled German Soap. Also, a full assortment of Colgate & Co.'s Toilet Soaps, Borden's Eagle Brand of Condensed Milk and Extract of Beef, Morton's Pineapple Cheese, just received and for sale at the Family Grocery of

LEWIS & McCLURE,
346 Liberty street.

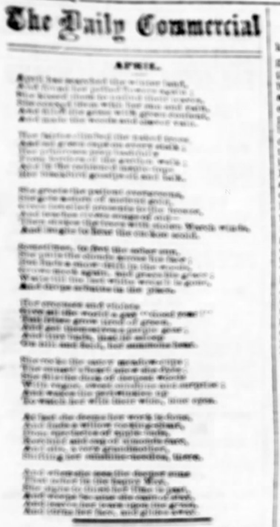
FOR RENT.

Desirable Furnished Residence in Allegheny City.

A gentleman about removing for a year is desirous of renting his residence, located in one of the most pleasant parts of Allegheny city, together with the Furniture to an acceptable party. Parties desiring to keep boarders need not apply. JOHN D.

The Daily Commercial

APRIL.



James Stephens and his Plans.

An "American Fenian," as he styles himself, has an article in the March number of Tinsley's Magazine on "The Irish Conspiracy." From it we cut the following in relation to James Stephens and the manner in which he proposed to liberate Ireland:

When I last saw Mr. James Stephens at Paris, he was good enough to give me a brief but detailed account of the origin of the Fenian organization. Those who figured him as a leader, and those who have been induced to despise him as a man, should have seen him as I did, living in extreme poverty in an obscure portion of the French capital, selling his correspondence under an assumed name, and devoting his limited income to the maturation of his exploded plans. Englishmen admire Jeff Davis in Canada, and why should not American admire Stephens in exile? For twenty years this conspirator labored to organize the Fenian Brotherhood. He traveled on foot through the whole of Ireland, he gained the confidence of the people, he formed an army of fifty thousand resolute men, of whom he was the acknowledged chief. In case that if the means had been supplied by the Fenians in America, he could have placed this in the field armed and equipped, but the American branch of the organization would not trust him; he was obliged to go to the United States to explain his plans to leaders there; ambitious rivals supplanted him, and the rebellion was a failure. But Mr. James Stephens never asked and never wanted any American recruits. The men from Ireland, the money from America—that was the original plan of Fenianism.

The fifty thousand men enlisted by Mr. James Stephens are in Ireland still. They have not been arrested; they cannot be discovered. Colonel Kelly, who assumed command after the deposition of Stephens, knew every one of them, General Patrick Condon, or General Massey, and Colonel Farrin, both of whom have been arrested and have turned informers for the Crown, undertook to manage the recruiting in Ireland. But he never succeeded with a tenth part of the genuine Fenian organization. Condon, or Massey, knows less than he tells; Farrin knows more than he tells. But the Fenians assured me long before their arrest, and while they both seemed the most enthusiastic of Fenians, that he was totally unacquainted with them, and would refuse to recognize them should he ever again secure the control of the organization which he had wrested. The fact is, that the English authorities have happened upon a mere offshoot of Fenianism. They captured the parasites, and think that they have foiled the tree. Some of the Fenians who have been arrested may have acquitted for a while in America, they may have been incarcerated, there may have been a few executions during the late civil war, but in no other sense can Fenianism be called an American organization. It is Irish from beginning to end; it was formed by an Irishman, and some but Irishmen were permitted to enroll themselves, originally the organization was confined to Irishmen in Ireland, afterward, because money was needed to purchase arms, it was extended to Irishmen in America, and thence brotherhoods of ——— corporation. It was a conspiracy within the kingdom of Great Britain supported by sympathizers in the United States, but both were conspirators and organizations were Irishmen. The plan of Mr. Stephens was to complete the organization, arm and drill the men, and then, and not until England became involved in a foreign war. The impatience and distrust of the Fenians in America precipitated events instead of being managed by competent leaders, the movement fell into such hands as those which the British Government has now bribed or menaced; isolated outrages like those at Manchester, Dublin, and Glenbeigh occurred instead of a general insurrection, and the failure which has caused is the legitimate penalty of the departure from the original programme. If Fenianism ever succeeds, it must be when England is engaged in a war with some other nation. Only those who are born in servant have the patience to await such an opportunity.

Mr. Charles Dickens and His Chicago Relations.

[From the Chicago Tribune.]

Some time since the *Tribune* referring to Mr. Charles Dickens's visit to America, and the probability of his coming to this city, alluded to the fact that the widow of his dead brother was living in Chicago, in circumstances so straitened as to render his appearance among to a duty. The statement with regard to the condition of his relatives led to the publication of articles in several of the eastern papers, in one of which it was stated that the eminent author had sent to his sister-in-law the sum of $2,000—a sum sufficient to place her and her family in circumstances beyond any ordinary want. From persons who were intimately acquainted with the late Augustus W. Dickens, and who are familiar with the present condition of the family which he left, the following facts have been obtained:

Mr. Augustus Dickens married the daughter of Mr. Phillips, an English merchant, the same with his wife to this country, and engaged in successful business at Dayton, in this State. The venture proved unfortunate, and, with little means left, Mr. Dickens, with his family, removed to this city and entered the real estate office of the Illinois Central Railroad Company, remaining there for a space of about a year and a half on North Clark street, and when he died last year, he left his family little or nothing beside the issues in which they still live. For a considerable time previous to his death, it is asserted that Mr. Dickens's relations with his distinguished brother were not intimate, though not positively unfriendly. Augustus lived from his brother very seldom, though he corresponded occasionally by frequent letters. It is said that when their mother died, Charles did not even inform his brother of the fact, which the latter learned only accidentally some four or five months after.

The death of her husband left Mrs. A. W. Dickens, as has been shown, in an embarrassed condition. Her father lying soon after, and delay ensuing in the settlement of his estate, which was by no means large, also, with three small children, had before her a future dreary enough.

When Mr. Charles Dickens visited this country she wrote him, tendering him the hospitality she had to offer, in case he should call this city. His reply is stated to have been extremely formal. He replied that he did not know what arrangements his agent (Mr. Dolby) had made, and that his coming to Chicago was uncertain. Since then it has been learned that Mr. Dickens will not visit this city. He has not sent Mrs. Dickens $1,000 nor $100, nor one cent.

Mrs. Dickens lives in a small cottage, on rented ground, on North Clark street. With her live Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence, the former a bookkeeper on a small salary, and Mrs. Lawrence, an own cousin of Mr. Charles Dickens, and his only blood relation in this country except the children of his now dead brother. Mrs. Dickens is now in poor health, and is pressing upon a bed of sickness. She has not been concerned, directly or indirectly, in the publication of the facts here recited. She has made no appeal to any person for aid, nor will she do so.

We suggest as a proper bonne for the proposed grand banquet to Mr. Dickens in New York: "The Relatives of Charles Dickens in America."

An Army of Rats.

A couple of nights ago a small army of rats, seemingly met together by consent, created no small sensation in the house of a poor woman on Elizabeth street, by a very singular proceeding. The woman was lying in bed asleep with her two little ones, when she was aroused by the screams of the children. On awaking she was horrified to find the bed fairly covered with rats, while the floor of the room was almost black with them. Her children at her side were screaming wildly, and some through terror, but through pain also, for the vermin had seized them by the toes, ears, and cheeks, and were rapidly sucking themselves down on every part of their faces. Of course, with a mother's instinct, the woman immediately rescued her little ones, while the rats scampered off in all directions and quickly disappeared. The faces of the children were much mangled in several places, and the wounds of the nose of one of them were considered so serious that Dr. Lawlor was called in, and in his hands the little ones have been well cared for, and are now doing well. It is supposed that the invasion was caused by the heavy rains that prevailed at the time, which, flooding the drains and other places in which the rats make their homes, drove them out and forced them to seek food and shelter elsewhere. Had the children been alone they would certainly have been eaten alive, as the rats were around them in numbers, and would shortly have attacked their throats, and would likely have resulted in a very few minutes.—*Toronto Telegraph.*

The strike of nearly one thousand employees in the Sprague cotton mill at Saltil, Conn., yet continues. The Norwich *Bulletin* says it was incited by a number of roughs outside of the mill, and, but for the high water which backed the wheel and stopped the machinery, the entire woolen mill would have turned out. The Sprague's are paid every four weeks, and their wages are as much as any mill pays. The Messrs. Sprague's decline to increase the compensation, and if the operatives are again employed in the mill they will work at the old prices. They have been given till to-day to report for their work, when, if they do not re-appear, the mill doors will be declared on them.

Grand Opera in New York.

The *Tribune* says: The failure of Mr. Strakosch's short season at the Academy of Music gives new interest to the question, What will the stockholders do with it? One thing ought by this time to be clear: two or three artists alone cannot keep up an opera. We have been offered now to an exacting taste; we will not pay for a poor performance, the company must be a complete one, the appointments must be careful: we want a chorus; we want an orchestra. A troupe good enough for the Provinces is not necessarily good enough for New York. It is comforting to know that the stockholders appreciate all this, and are trying to place the opera at their house upon a permanent and satisfactory basis. The arrangement which a party (we believe a majority) of them propose making with Maretzek of London seems a very good one. Mr. Maretzek might bring his singers over here in the fall, and return in time for the opening of the London season in the spring. That would give us back Kellogg, and bring us Isolde Tietjens, Santley, and other fine artists. Another plan is proposed by certain of the stockholders, who are anxious to connect the management of the opera to Mr. Jullien, and furnish him with a large capital to engage singers in Europe. One of the two schemes will probably be adopted.

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DUE JULY 1st, 1868.

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DUE JULY 1st, 1868,

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OF

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LOAN OF MARCH 27, 1839, DUE JULY 1, 1868.

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THOMAS N. MILLER ..... President.

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PITTSBURGH FLINT GLAS

The Daily Commercial

PITTSBURGH, FRIDAY, MARCH 27, 1868.

CITY MATTERS.

REAL ESTATE IN ALLEGHENY.—Yesterday, Mr. R. Leggate, auctioneer, disposed of, at public sale, the lot, No. 123 South Canal street, Allegheny, 25 by 178 feet, upon which is erected a two-story brick house, containing nine rooms, for $1,010.

ASSIGNEE INSOLVENT ASSIGNEE.—Jeremiah Stilley, Jr., was committed to jail yesterday by Wayne Blackmore, in default of $1,000 bail, to answer a charge of stating that he is the agent of W. J. Stilley, at the Six Mile Ferry, on the Ohio river, knowing witnesses testified to the fencing that Stilley had acknowledged to them that he was the purchaser.

A CASE FROM MR. PITKIN.—We have already noticed the attempt of two men, claiming to be "detectives" in the employ of Allan Pinkerton, of Chicago, to fleece the friends of Mr. Pitkin, by proposing to discover his whereabouts and restore him to his family for the consideration of one hundred dollars. Mr. Pinkerton denies that he has any such men in his employ, and pronounces them as "liars and knaves." That's plain enough.

MARINE OIL COMPANY.—As will be seen by reference to the notice in another part of today's paper, the Marine Oil Company have declared a dividend of five per cent. out of the earnings of the Company. During the depression of oil the Company did not push the productive forces of their wells, but continued developing the boundary of their territory, which is among the best on Pithole. Now that oil has appreciated, their product is coming into market, and hence their dividend at the present moment. The stockholders have a valuable property, and are realizing largely from it.

FIRE ON THE SIXTH WARD.—The alarm of fire at three o'clock yesterday afternoon from box No. 66, was occasioned by the breaking out of a fire in a dwelling house in the row on Penn street, between Morris and Ball streets, in the Sixth Ward. The building was occupied by John Cox, boot and shoe maker, and was owned by John Logue. The fire broke out between the joists and roof of the building, and caught from a defective flue. The firemen were promptly on the ground, and succeeded in extinguishing the flames before they had gained much headway. The building was damaged to the extent of about one hundred dollars.

DEATH OF CAPTAIN LEECH.—Captain M. E. Leech, Quartermaster at Allegheny Arsenal, died at the residence of his son-in-law, Mr. Calvin Hagan, Penn street, yesterday morning at eight o'clock. The deceased had been Quartermaster at the Arsenal for a period of seven years, and was highly esteemed as an officer and gentleman. He was formerly a steamboat captain, and at one time was largely interested in that kind of property. His late relations are in Philadelphia, and his remains will be forwarded to that place, and interred with masonic honors.

"THE CAMPBELLS ARE COMING."—Yesterday evening Mr. Bartley T. Campbell, of the *Evening Advocate*, was united to Miss Anna E. Woodhouse, of Allegheny, in the holy bonds of matrimony. The ceremony took place in the First Christian Church, on Diamond street, Allegheny, in the presence of a large number of the relatives and friends of the parties. At a later hour the Great Western Brass Band, under the leadership of Mr. E. Wale, serenaded them at the Morgan Hotel. The newly married couple left this morning at two o'clock for Cincinnati and Louisville, and will return home in about two weeks. For months the new happy Benedict was "Almost Lost," and latterly he plaintively called on "Come to me, darling." Their courtship, under circumstances of peculiar interest, has been happily terminated by the event we chronicle. May its happiness not alone consist in "Twilight Hours," but participate in the more substantial light that radiates through life.

A Series of Charges.

Yesterday morning, at an early hour, Daniel Robinson was arrested by the police, at the house of Ross Hartman, in Carpenter's alley, for disorderly conduct, but while he was being conveyed to the watchhouse some of his friends interfered and rescued him. Shortly afterwards he was rearrested, together with two men, named Henry Ward and Thomas Steel, who were charged with making an assault and battery upon the Mayor, officer Wallis made information against Steel and Ward, charging them with aggravated assault and battery. Steel was however discharged, there being no evidence against him, while Ward was held to bail in the sum of $300 to make information against Robinson for assault and battery, malicious mischief and breach of the peace, and Robinson for the latter offence, threatened to take her life, and destroyed her furniture to the amount of twenty-five dollars. On each of these charges he was committed in default of $500, and was afterwards fined twenty dollars for disorderly conduct. In default of payment of the latter amount, he was committed to jail. Before leaving for the Institution, however, he lodged an information against Mrs. Hartman for maintaining a disreputable house, which the magistrate will investigate this morning, in default of bail, or recognizance for same, in default of the necessary security for her appearance in Court to answer.

Sad Accident in Allegheny—Boy Killed.

An accident of a most distressing nature occurred on Ohio street, Allegheny, yesterday afternoon, about half past three o'clock, resulting in the almost instant death of a boy named Edward Cole, aged about eight years, and son of Mr. Charles Cole, clerk in the Penn street office of the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne and Chicago Railway Company. An alarm of fire had been raised in this city, and extended to Allegheny, when Mr. E. Frederick Bahnemann, corner of Mary and Ohio streets, Fourth ward, pulled in the fire alarm box at that point, opened it with a key and pulled the slide, for the purpose, as he alleges, of ascertaining where the fire was. This, of course, gave the alarm all over the city, and the firemen rushed to the point where the box was located. The fact having been ascertained that the alarm was false, and that Engine No. 2 had been run a full thousand dollars more, which does not include the property it is going to cost her. The whole affair, when completed, will be a very elegant erection and a credit to the city.

The congregation of the Union Baptist Church also held a church meeting relative to their edifice on Grant street, near Sixth, which was burned off very literally, and all present entered themselves in their fullest extent.

Public Amusements.

LOTTA'S ENGAGEMENT.—There is no diminution in the rise of Lotta's audiences at the Opera House, in fact the crowds in the true sentiment of the case. To-night she will have her first appearance as Musette, in the romantic drama of the "Pearl of Savoy," a character she is said to excel, and in which she will personate six characters, sing and dance. Such a charming little soubrette as Lotta is sure to attract a crowded audience in her benefit.

THEATRE.—Manager Aiken's company is in good condition the last we have had here is a long time. Each performer is an artiste of unusual merit, and in his or specialty has an engagement. The entertainment throughout is very enjoyable.

ALLEGHENY CITY COUNCILS.

The Removal of Tax Exempt—Letter from Hon. George R. Riddle—The Meetings of Councils—The Fourth Ward Delegation—The Repairing of Chestnut Street—&c., &c., &c.

A meeting of the Councils of Allegheny City was held on the evening, April 26, 1865, was held on the evening, April 26, 1865.

SELECT COUNCIL.

JAMES MCGIRR - - - - - - - *President.*
DAVID MACFARLAND - - - - - *Clerk.*

The CLERK called the roll, when the following named members answered as present:

Messrs. Black, Brown, Calvert, English, Faulkner, Gwinner, Hall, Jahn, Kuhn, Mathews, J. C. Patterson, A. Patterson, Phillips, Riddle, Rotter, A. D. Smith, Wm. Smith, Weber, Wetherill, and President McGirr.

The minutes of the previous session were read and approved.

PETITIONS.

The PRESIDENT submitted a petition from sundry citizens, asking Councils to allow the sign (a large hoop skirt), in front of Thomas Twigg's place of business to remain, as they do not consider it an obstruction. Referred to the Committee on Police. Common Council non-concurred, and referred to the Committee on Police, with instructions to enforce the ordinance.

Mr. WOTHERSPOON, a petition for the grading and paving of Lowrie street, between Fulton and Lowrie streets. Referred to the Committee on Streets.

Mr. A. PATTERSON, petition of R. M. Parker, praying for the amount of $775 50, overpaid by him as Wharfmaster of the late borough of Manchester. Referred to the Finance Committee.

REMOVAL OF TAX EXEMPTS.

The PRESIDENT submitted the following communication from Hon. George R. Riddle, Representative at Harrisburg, relative to the removal of tax exempts:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
HARRISBURG, March 26, 1868.

D. MACFARLAND, Esq.—Dear Sir—I had the bill providing for the removal of the toll houses from the city and Allegheny bridges, reported back to the House committee, unfavorably, the other day, and succeeded in getting the report rejected. I have ordered it to a second opposition for to-morrow morning, when I shall move to take the bill with the report from the committee and recommit it to the committee on Ways and Means, with instructions to report it back to the House, and the managers of the Pacific Railroad, to have nothing to do with the toll houses, and are willing to